

REMARKS

The Examiner's Action mailed on July 13, 2005, has been received and its contents carefully considered. Additionally attached to this Amendment is a Petition for a One-month Extension of Time, extending the period for response to November 13, 2005.

In this Amendment, Applicants have editorially amended the specification, amended independent claim 1, and added claims 9-14. Claims 1 and 14 are the independent claims, and claims 1-14 are pending in the application. For at least the following reasons, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance.

The Examiner's Action has rejected claims 1-6 as being anticipated by *Dilouya* (USP 4,823,246). It is submitted that these claims are *prima facie* patentably distinguishable over the cited reference for at least the following reasons.

Dilouya is directed to a shallow indicator light for a motor vehicle. This reference specifically discloses that the invention disclosed therein is directed to an indicator light, such as vehicle lights used for signaling, e.g. side lights, brake lights, direction indicator lights, etc., as opposed to head lights (see column 1, lines 6-13). This reference further discloses that the indicator light includes a lamp 10, which is disposed in front of a closure glass 20'. The lamp 10 has a filament 12. As shown in Figure 4 of this reference, the closure glass 20' includes a wide zone 203' disposed on one side of the glass, and a fourth zone 204'

a wide zone 203' disposed on one side of the glass, and a fourth zone 204' disposed on an opposite side of the glass.

The Examiner's Action has equated the single groove 23' of the wide zone 203' as being an incidence microstructure, as recited by Applicants' independent claim 1, and has equated the single groove 24' of the fourth zone 204' as being an emergence microstructure. However, and in contrast to the present invention, this reference does not disclose that the wide zone 203', or the single groove 23' of the wide zone 203', which the Examiner's Action has equated to being an incidence microstructure, is directly in front of a light source, as recited by claim 1. Instead, as shown in Figure 4, the wide zone 203' and its groove 23' are disposed laterally offset relative to the filament 12.

Moreover, although the Examiner's Action states that the light is homogenously distributed, Applicants have not been able to find any disclosure in support of this contention. In fact, it does not appear that the reference discloses or suggests that light passing from the light source 12 is homogeneously distributed, as recited by Applicants' independent claim 1. Instead, this reference simply discloses that the indicator light is used to form beams which propagate along a given general emission direction. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Applicants' independent claim 1 is *prima facie* patentably distinguishable over the cited reference. It is thus requested that claim 1, and the claims dependent therefrom, be allowed and that this rejection be withdrawn.

The Examiner's Action has also rejected claims 1-8 as being anticipated by *Borchardt* (USP 5,381,309). It is submitted that these claims are *prima facie* patentably distinguishable over the cited reference for at least the following reasons.

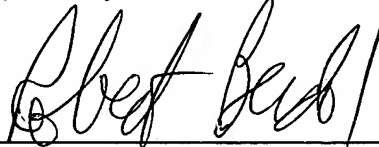
This reference is directed to a backlit display which includes an LCD 12 disposed in front of a brightness enhancing film 20. Brightness enhancing film 20 is disposed in front of a diffusion film 21, which is disposed in front of a transmissive right angle film 22. This reference also discloses that two rows of light emitting diodes 14 are disposed at opposite ends of the various films 20, 21 and 22. However, since the light emitting diodes 14 are disposed at the ends of the apparatus, these light emitting diodes are not disposed directly in front of an incidence microstructure, as recited by Applicants' independent claim 1. Moreover, whereas Applicants' independent claim 1 is directed to an apparatus that is comprised of a single layered light guide plate, this reference discloses a light guide plate that requires three separate films, i.e. the brightness enhancing film 20, the diffusion film 21, the transmissive right angle film 22, in order to accomplish its objective. Since this reference does not disclose a single layered light guide plate, as recited by Applicants' independent claim 1, this prior art arrangement is more difficult to manufacture. As such, it is submitted that Applicants' independent claim 1, and the claims dependent therefrom, are *prima facie* patentably distinguishable over the cited reference. It is thus requested that this rejection be withdrawn, and that these claims be allowed.

It is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Such action and the passing of this case to issue are requested.

Should the Examiner feel that a conference would help to expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned counsel to arrange for such an interview.

Should the remittance be accidentally missing or insufficient, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 18-0002, and advise us accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,



November 4, 2005

Date

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